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Ernest C. Richardson, Princeton University Library.

M. Taylor Pyne, chairman New Jersey Public Library Commission, Princeton.

Josephine W. Porter, librarian Asbury Park Public Library.

#### Publicity

Mr. W. H. Kerr, chairman of the Publicity Committee, who was empowered to complete his committee, has named the following:

Charles H. Compton, Seattle Public Library.

Frederick C. Hicks, Columbia University Library.

Samuel H. Ranck, Grand Rapids Public Library.

Charles E. Rush, Des Moines Public Library.

William F. Yust, Rochester Public Library.

Mrs. Elizabeth Claypool Earl, Indiana Public Library Commission, Connerville.

Joseph L. Wheeler, McMillan Free Library, Youngstown, Ohio.

#### COWHIDE VS. BUCKRAM

In the second edition of Library Handbook No. 5, "Binding for Libraries," recently issued, the A. L. A. Committee on Bookbinding advocates the use of cowhide in binding fiction and juvenile books. Unfortunately the war demand for cowhide has caused the price to advance and the quality to deteriorate. The Committee therefore suggests that buckrams meeting the specifications of the Bureau of Standards, or other cloths equally as strong, be substituted for cowhide in all cases. When the price and quality again become normal this policy should be reversed.

A. L. BAILEY, Chairman

Committee on Bookbinding.

#### THE LIBRARIES AND THE STEVENS BILL

In accordance with the resolutions of the Council of the American Library Association, the bookbuying committee of the Association prepared a circular to libraries, urging the necessity of joint action to se-

cure an amendment to the Stevens bill, which would exempt libraries from the provisions of the bill. The committee also had in view other action looking toward the same end. A conference was arranged with Mr. Whittier of the American Fair Trade League, which seems to be the organization energetically backing price maintenance legislation. Mr. Whittier informed the committee that a new bill was about to be introduced which would replace the old Stevens-Ayres bill. He offered his co-operation in obtaining a clause in the bill exempting libraries. The new bill was introduced by Representative Stephens of Nebraska, January 21st. (H. R. No. 9671.) The bill contains the following clause:

"The provisions of this act shall not apply in cases of sales of such article or articles of commerce to the United States, or in cases of sales of such articles to any state or public library, or to any society or institution incorporated or established solely for religious, philosophical, educational, medical, scientific or literary purposes, made in good faith for use thereof by such society or institution."

It would appear that all objections on the part of librarians, as such, to the old bill are obviated by the introduction of the new bill, and that no further action on the part of libraries and library organizations will be necessary if the second section is retained.

The clause reinforces the principle laid down in the tariff law that libraries which are supported by public taxation for educational purposes, and which are practically wholesale buyers, should not be on the same plane as the private individual.

The Bookbuying Committee is grateful for the hearty co-operation it has received from librarians in all parts of the country. The progress of the bill, of course, will be carefully watched and reported. It is possible that the bill may be so amended in committee as to affect libraries, in which case some action on the part of libraries and library organizations would be desirable. At the present writing (March 1st)

the bill is still in the hands of the House Committee on Interstate Commerce. If not passed at this session, it will probably be considered and urged at future sessions.

CHARLES H. BROWN,  
Chairman Bookbuying Committee.

#### IMPORTATION OF BOOKS—PRESENT LAW THREATENED

The Publishers' Weekly for March 4, at page 732, states that Mr. Driscoll has introduced a bill in Congress (H. R. 10231) providing that the importation of books for public libraries be made only "with the consent of the proprietor of the American copyright or his representative." This provision was proposed at the time of the passage of the present copyright law and was not included therein, because the librarians of the country were able to show its unwisdom to the Joint Committee on Printing of Congress.

As Chairman of the Committee on Federal and State Relations of the American Library Association, I have protested against any favorable action upon this provision, which would greatly hamper the work of the public library, an essential part of the system of public education. In case any hearings are given upon the bill, we shall endeavor to be heard in opposition to this provision.

BERNARD C. STEINER.

#### COMMITTEE ON WORK WITH THE BLIND

The chairman of the Committee has received notices from two libraries announcing recently established collections of books for the blind.

Further announcements of new departments for the blind should be sent this committee for incorporation in the annual report.

Address: Mrs. Gertrude T. Rider, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

#### SALE, EXCHANGE, WANTS

(Any library member of the Association may insert, without cost, a ten-line notice of books or periodicals wanted, for sale or exchange.)

#### WANTS

California University Library, Berkeley, Cal.

Glanville, R. de. *Tractatus de legibus regni Angliae*. 1780.

Canton (Mass.) Public Library.

Macauley's History of England, published in five volumes. Vol. 3.

Illinois University Library, Urbana, Ill.

Columbia University Teachers College Technical education bulletins, nos. 7, 12, 18. Oakland (Cal.) Free Library.

A. L. A. Booklist, vol. 8, no. 2 (Oct. 1911) and vol. 9, no. 3 (Nov. 1912).

Chautauquan, vol. 72, no. 37 (May 16, 1914).

Craftsman, vol. 2—1902.

International Studio, vols. 7, 16 and 24.

Quarterly Journal Economics, vol. 5.

National Geographic Magazine, vol. 1 to and including vols. 11, 14 and 15.

Political Science Quarterly, vols. 1 and 17.

Oregon University Library, Eugene, Ore.

Wisconsin Library Bulletin, vol. 9, no. 1.

St. Paul (Minn.) Public Library.

A. L. A. Booklist, vol. 8, nos. 6 and 8; vol. 10, nos. 2 and 3.

#### FOR SALE

Peabody Institute Library, Baltimore, Md.

The Catalogue of the Library of the Peabody Institute, Baltimore, in 13 vols., bound in cloth. Price \$20. Apply to John Parker, Librarian.

#### OFFERS

Public Library of District of Columbia, Washington, D. C.

American Highway Association publications, including American Road Congress, 1911, 1913, 1914.

Good roads yearbook, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915.

As long as they last any volume will be sent express collect; or on receipt of postage sufficient to cover 2-pound package for each volume.

Trade List Annual for 1910 and 1914.

To any library which is willing to pay the transportation charges.